MR. CHAIRMAN: The question asks about Bhopal, and here also you have said about the tannery at Bhopal.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: That is why answer to the main question is, No, Sir. That is why the straight answer is, No, Sir.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, there is great potential for the development of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh. It is one of the areas which is very rich in cattle population. On the other hand there is a tremendous export potential for manufactured leather and leather goods. What I would like to know specifically from the Minister is that with the setting up of the NRI units or complexes in Madhya Pradesh or setting up of such units in the past, has the potential for exploitation of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh, has that been completely covered or has the Government made a study in this particular State and whether there is potential for the development of this industry in Madhya Pradesh in future? If so, then what is the Government doing specifically in relation to Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the status of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh: In the organised sector the State has units for the manufacture of leather and leather footwear goods owned by the Tata Exports. Sir, the unit is located in Dewas again. Proposals for the new units which we have just now mentioned have been cleared by the Government. Details of the small scale units in Madhya Pradesh are not known to us but there is a scope for the development of leather industry in the State. Leather industry is predominantly concentrated in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in view of the "No. Sir" reply of the hon. Minister, may I know from the Hon. Minister, is it a fact ...(*Interruptions*)...that the international shoe and leather cartels are allowed to buy semi-processed and processed leather in India at a throw-away price and when they sell their goods in the finished form in other countries, including in India, it is at a very high price? So, in view of this fact and in view of the shortage of foreign exchange may I know from the hon. Minister what adequate facilities are sought to be established in this country for completing this semi-processed and processed leather goods in India, so that we could earn foreign exchange.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, the question is about Bhopal. It does not arise out of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Richilone Cracker Unit in Madhya Pradesh

*186. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:

THAKUR JAGATPAL SINGH:†

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3656 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken by Government on the proposal sent by Madhya Pradesh Government for setting up a Richilone Cracker and Poly Propylene unit based upon natural gas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and

(c) if not, by when the decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No final decision has been taken on the requests from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the setting up of a gas cracker and a poly propylene unit at Bijaipur based on HBI Pipeline.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Decision on such cases is taken on techno economic considerations.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Thakur Jagat pal Singh.

ठाकुर जगतपाल सिंह : माननीय सभापति महोदय, डिसीजन कब तक लेंगे ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: I gave the answer. On 4-4-89, we received a letter from the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. They prepared the detailed estimate but we have not received it. After receiving the detailed estimate, we will certainly consider this case.

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: It is learnt that if the project of Madhya Pradesh is established, it would entail a saving of Rs. 20 crore per annum by way of energy. In order to save on the capital cost and also energy it is important that the entire gas separation is undertaken at one place, that is, the first tapping point along with the HBJ pipeline, in other words, at Bijaipur. So I want to know when was the letter of intent applied for by the Madhya Pradesh Government, and what steps the Government is going to take to stop the colossal wastage of a very important petro-chemical feed stock.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Just now I answered this question. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh has written to me on 4-4-1989, a letter. Though the project report was prepared, we have not yet received it. After we receive the project report, we will certainly examine this project.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: I must congratulate the hon. Minister for the policy decision that such project is going to be established only in the public sector, not in the joint sector or the private sector. But my question would remain. May I know from him as to what is the rationale of this policy decision.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: It depends on the State Government. If the Chief Minister wants, he can suggest it in a public sector and if he wants, he can suggest it to the joint sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*187. [*The questioner (Shri Dipen Ghosh) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 37 infra.]

*188. [*The questioner (Shri Mirza Irshadbaig) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 38—40 infra.]

Tidal Power Projects in Orissa

*189. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the on-going tidal power projects in Orissa at present;

(b) what is the capacity of each of those projects;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to take up the execution of some tidal power projects in that State in 1989-90; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) There are no on-going tidal power projects in Orissa at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

श्री जगदीश जानी : माननीय सभापति महोदय, क्या सरकार को पता है कि एंटायर ईस्ट कोस्ट विशेषकर उड़ीसा में बहुत सारे टाइडल पावर प्रोजेक्ट स्थापित करना संभव है और कम खर्चे में वे प्रोजेक्ट शुरू किए जा सकते हैं ? अगर यह सच है तो मंत्री जी इस दिशा में क्या कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ?